



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, January 19, 2012

CONTACT: Marc Chery
619-236-5821

Lawrence Baron Discusses *The Modern Jewish Experience in World Cinema* at the San Diego Public Library *Recently Released Book Demonstrates the Great Scope of the Jewish Presence in Film*

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library, along with community partners at the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, welcome Lawrence Baron, Ph.D. for an author talk on the recently released title *The Modern Jewish Experience in World Cinema*, which he edited. Though many have seen *Exodus*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Yentl*, and *Schindler's List*, the Jewish experience in film proves far more expansive. Over the past century, Jewish-themed films have emerged from the Americas, Europe, Israel, and North Africa. This free presentation by Dr. Baron will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 in the auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego.

In addition to surveying the study of Jewish historical film, *The Modern Jewish Experience in World Cinema* also covers cinematic themes such as European Jewry's acculturation; responses to oppression and belated emancipation; the American Jewish immigrant experience; the Zionist experiment; the Holocaust; postwar American Jewish life; Jewish international films; and contemporary Israeli and American Jewish cinema. In all, the remarkable anthology brings together more than fifty new and classic essays by 49 scholars in eight countries.

Lawrence Baron, Ph.D. has authored or edited several other books, including *Projecting the Holocaust into the Present: The Changing Focus of Contemporary Holocaust Cinema*. He has held the Nasatir Chair of Modern Jewish History at San Diego State University since 1988 and is also the founder and current president of the Western Jewish Studies Association.

The Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center connects the community to Jewish heritage, identity, experiences and values to ensure the continuity and vibrancy of the Jewish community, which includes producing the annual San Diego Jewish Film Festival. This year's Festival takes place February 9 through 19. Visit www.lfjcc.org online for more information about the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center.

-more-

Page 2

Press Release – Lawrence Baron Discussion

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future

#